Sahira Abdool

Director, Chief Clerk

P.O. Box 1562 Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Telephone – Dial 311 www.houstontx.gov

NEWS RELEASE

Contacts:

Gwendolyn Goins, Communications Officer OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK (713) 247-5479

Ted Bowen, Marketing Manager PARKING MANAGEMENT (713) 853-8051

For Immediate Release

June 28, 2007

Bonita Tolbert, Assistant Director OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING JUDGE 713) 247-5464

Victor H. Senties, PIO HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT (713) 308-3280

Municipal Courts Brings Amnesty To A Close: More than 7,000 Participate

HOUSTON, Texas – The City of Houston's Municipal Courts closed the 2007 Amnesty Program at 10 p.m. Friday, June 15, 2007, ending 4 weeks of cost reductions for citizens with delinquent citations. More than 7,000 Houstonians participated in the program, clearing more than 12,000 cases.

The program was intended to motivate citizens to handle delinquent citations by taking advantage of this opportunity to clear warrants, avoid jail time and save money. Citizens were given discounts through the waiver of fees and certain costs. Options to pay for tickets included using the internet (www.houstoncourts.org), calling 3-1-1, by mail and paying in person at all court locations.

The Houston Police Department's Marshal Division was out in full force during a warrant sweep which followed the amnesty. The 2007 Amnesty Program statistics are as follows:

	Fines Paid	Cases	Defendants
TRAFFIC/NON-TRAFFIC	\$ 929,496	6,344	4,318
PARKING	\$323,998	5,925	3,460
Total	\$1,253,494	12,269	7,778

Eligible persons that did not choose to participate in the Amnesty Program are again subject to all applicable fees and court costs of the original citation, and any warrants issued are active and may be served at any time.

For more information about citations, visit the website at www.houstoncourts.org, or contact City's Helpline at 3-1-1 or 713-837-0311 if outside the City of Houston.